

Better Late than Never

An Activity to Acknowledge
National Procrastination Week
Second Week in March
(or Whenever)



procrastinate To put off or delay until a later day or time; waste time; putter around; dawdle; goldbrick; boondoggle; dilly-dally; horse around; lollygag; goof off, etc.

We all know people who are never on time. Deadlines are a mere annoyance. They offer excuses and justifications, like "Oh, well. Better late than never." Some are masters at boondoggling. They horse around while the rest of us get the work done. What if the Jolly Old Elf himself were a procrastinator? He might show up in March or April or May or during a Fourth of July picnic!

Dilly-dalliers certainly don't have the **LATE** thing all to themselves. Quite a few English words are also late—that is, they have the letters **L-A-T-E** hidden within their spellings.



Use the definitions to fill in the missing letters and identify the following 20 **late** words. Some of them are a real challenge, so no lollygagging. And, yes, spelling counts!

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| c _ _ _ _ l a t e | 1. A popular food made from ground and roasted cacao seeds, usually sweetened and flavored. |
| _ l a t e | 2. A shallow, usually circular dish, from which food is eaten. |
| p l a t e _ _ | 3. A wide relatively level area of elevated land; to remain at a stable level for an extended time. |
| b _ l a t e _ | 4. Delayed; arriving or celebrated after the appointed or scheduled time. |
| i _ _ _ _ l a t e | 5. To protect against disease by vaccination. |
| u _ _ _ _ l a t e | 6. To move or cause to move in a wave-like motion; to have a wavy form or appearance. |
| e _ _ _ l a t e _ _ _ | 7. Descriptive of a geometric figure having all of its sides of equal length. |
| _ l a t e _ | 8. Very happy or proud; jubilant; in high spirits. |